


[Log In to Network Computing](#)


[Special TechQuiz: Web Stats | Beat our editors. Win this book!](#)

[What's New](#) | [Current Issue](#) | [Past Issues](#) | [Article Index](#) | [Newsletters](#) | [Content Feeds](#) | [Subscribe](#)
[START](#)[NEWS](#)[REVIEWS](#)[KNOW-HOW](#)[TECHNOLOGIES](#)[TALK](#)[IT TOC](#)

Need a practical solution to secure WLAN deployment?

Sponsored by 

Management

FEATURE

Putting Simple Back Into SNMP

October 18, 1999

Castle Rock Computing SNMPc Workgroup 5.0
2600 and 3600 platforms.



Mature and fully functional, Castle Rock's simple SNMP network management server offers health reports, canned graphics, support for third-party enterprise MIBS, an enterprise event engine and an expandable architecture, which just don't happen overnight. It's obvious why Cisco Systems resells SNMPc to deliver Cisco Works 2000.

The user interface is strictly Win32 and works well over remote control, but we were disappointed in that it doesn't have a Web interface as Ipswitch does. Navigation is good, offering multiple ways of jumping into more detail. For example, you can select MIB browsing and graphing of usage statistics without first going back to a top-level menu. This is much better than offering tool button jumps within the context of the selected device. Mucho mature!

Despite its maturity, we did have one mishap at the beginning of our testing with SNMPc. We were shocked when SNMPc discovered the Internet by default. Normally network autodiscovery programs stop at the local subnet or (at worst) the network. Our profound apologies to all those who sent e-mail exclaiming "what the bleep are you doing, probing my servers." (Some of you might consider changing your communities to something other than public/private.) It turns out that by default SNMPc runs wide open, finding and probing any and all devices.

After our inadvertent Internet mapping, we reset the database, and filtered our discovery to only our local responsibility. However, for some reason we lost the ability to track and automatically discover additional devices. The embarrassment of being publicly humiliated on the Internet must have been too much for venerable SNMPc.

Intel PRO
Network Connections



Today's Technology News and

Security Pipeline

- [Windows Vulnerability Exploite](#)
- [Lawsuits On Internet File-Shar](#)
- [Zone Labs Updates Security E](#)
- [Fighting Back Against Spyware](#)
- [Apache Foundation Adds XML](#)
- [Homeland Security Picks Anse](#)

More News

< Advertisement >

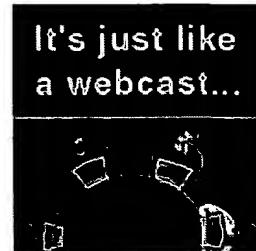
Diagnostically speaking, SNMPc features best-of-class tools. Canned MIBs include MIB II and enterprise MIBs from Cabletron Systems, Cisco, Nortel Networks and 3Com Corp. In addition, SNMPc comes with the Hub View application. Hub View provides realistic graphics to depict some infrastructure devices, and more generic icons for those devices not in its database. Unfortunately, older equipment had realistic graphic skins, while newer devices—those more likely to be present on your network—fell into the generic heap. For example our Synoptics (pre-Bay Networks/Nortel Networks) hub came up clear as a bell. But our Cisco 1900 and 2900 switches had to wear the generic skins. Cisco makes available lifelike graphics for these devices, but you'll have to get them yourself.

With or without the real-looking icons, SNMPc offers predefined looks at SNMP MIB variables. In most cases, we found both graphic and tabled-text statistical looks at system, usage and errors, at both LLC (Logical Link Control) and network layers. We were able to point and right-click on our frame relay router, displaying circuits and assigned DLCs (Data Link Controls). We were impressed by this level of detail. It was typical of what we found throughout SNMPc.

Unfortunately, SNMPc lacks the intelligence to turn off functions that don't make sense. For example, when a device is chosen on the map, the unsuspecting will be able to search for a frame relay statistic, even if the device is a Novell server. It's probably fair to think that the program should know the difference between a Novell server and a frame relay router, but knowing that a device doesn't support bridge statistics, and that a zero in that table is nothing to lose sleep over, requires an administrator.

It's important to remember that WhatsUp Gold cannot show bridge statistics. If you are interested in that level of detail, the open granularity of SNMPc is a better bet.

SNMPc Workgroup 5.0, \$995 (base version), \$2,495 (enterprise version), Castle Rock Computing, (408) 366-6540; fax (408) 252-2379. www.castlerock.com



[Print this Page](#)
[E-mail this URL](#)

Interactive Report Card

- [Low-Cost SNMP Managers](#)

In This Article

- [Executive Summary](#)
- [Ipswitch WhatsUp Gold 4.0](#)
- [Castle Rock SNMPc Workgroup 5.0](#)
- [MG-Soft Net Inspector 1.5](#)

PDF Charts

- [Low-Cost SNMP Manager Features](#)

Related Links

- [Network and Systems Management: Not Happening](#)
- [Delivering the Right Amount of Data on Distributed Nets](#)
- [Enterprise Management: Scoring the Heavy Hitters](#)
- [WhatsUp Gold: Top Draft Pick](#)

Tools

- [Events](#)
- [IT Training](#)
- [Company Directory](#)
- [Reader Service](#)

PAGE: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [NEXT PAGE](#)

Site Navigation

[Home](#) | [Article Index](#) | [Newsletters](#) | [RSS Feeds](#) | [Site Map](#) | [IT Tools](#) | [Reviews](#) | [Technologies](#) | [Workshops/Tutorials](#) | [News](#) | [Forums/Blogs/Opinion](#) | [Bookstore](#) | [Jobs](#) | [RFP/RFQs](#) | [White Papers](#) | [Audio](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Editors](#) | [Webmaster](#) | [Sales and Marketing](#) | [Magazine Media Kit](#) | [Online Media Kit](#) | [Events](#) | [Reprints](#) | [Editorial Calendar](#)

Technology News and Opinion

[Small Business Pipeline](#) | [IT Utility Pipeline](#) | [Business Intelligence Pipeline](#) | [Desktop Pipeline](#) | [Compliance Pipeline](#) | [Server Pipeline](#) | [Storage Pipeline](#) | [Security Pipeline](#) | [Mobile Pipeline](#) | [Linux Pipeline](#)

Companion Sites

[Network Magazine](#) | [IT Pro Downloads](#) | [UnixWorld](#) | [Interactive Buyer's Guide](#) | [InternetWeek](#) | [InformationWeek](#) | [Transform Magazine](#) | [Pipeline Technology Sites](#) | [Intelligent Enterprise](#) | [TechWeb](#)

Network Computing MarketPlace

Rackspace-The Managed Hosting Specialist

Rackspace offers Managed and Application Hosting with customizable and scalable solutions. 0% downtime and a hardware replacement guarantee.

Enterprise Web Filtering with iPrism

Enterprise-class content filtering at a price you can afford. iPrism is a hardware appliance that monitors, filters and reports on Internet use. Contact us today for more information and qualify to receive a free iPrism evaluation unit.

HelpSTAR - Help Desk Software and Asset Management

Download HelpSTAR Quick Evaluation Edition. Experience first hand how HelpSTAR help desk software can provide tangible improvements in response time, end user self help, first call resolution, and cost-justification of staff and equipment.

Optimize Application Performance over the WAN

Accelerate application performance over WANs up to 100x or more with Steelhead appliances. Enable remote site consolidation and increase IT efficiency. To learn how, download a free whitepaper, "It's Not About Bandwidth".

VeriSign Security Intelligence and Control(SM) Services

VeriSign's Security Intelligence and Control(SM) Services let you focus on business initiatives, like record up-time and global VPNs, while VeriSign's experience helps you monitor and manage your security infrastructure.

[Buy a Link Now](#)

Special TechQuiz: Web Stats

Between now and June 4th, we'll host a series of three quizzes, each designed to test your Web site management, measurement and maintenance savvy. You could win a copy of The MarketingSherpa's "Buyer's Guide to Web Analytics," a \$199.00 report and accompanying book, "Web Analytics Demystified."

CompareIT

[Compare managed IP-PBX services and get quotes from Altel, Cisco, Nortel, and Siemens.](#)

Reader Linux A-List

We invite you to check out our latest user A-list reader entries. [This week's submission, djbdns \(which is better than BIND\), is courtesy of NWC Reader Andrew Colbeck.](#)

PDA Platform Advice

Unsure about which mobile platform to invest in? NWC's own Dave Molta offers [some candid and hard-won advice](#) on the ups and downs of Palm, RIM and PocketPC devices.

Interactive Buyer's Guides

- [Network Interface Cards](#)
- [Tape Autoloaders](#)
- [Desktop Antivirus Software](#)
- [Notebooks with Embedded Wireless](#)
- [Wiring Closet UPS Systems](#)

New White Papers & Reports

[eRoom 7 Next Generation](#) by Documentum, Inc.

[An Alternative Way to Scale Existing Applications](#) by ObjectStore, A Division of Progress Software

[Fast XML Architecture](#) by Sonic Software Corporation

[Information Lifecycle Management: The Smart Way to Save Money](#) by EMC

[Effectively Managing Your Branch Office System Environment](#) by IDC Provided by Novell Inc.

[Making the Case for Information Lifecycle Management](#) by EMC

[Giving Marketers Greater Control - How Marketing Resource Management Technologies](#)

[Improve Efficiency, Lower Costs and Enhance Competitive Position](#) by IDC provided by Unica Corporation

[Making Portals Flexible](#) by Sonic Software Corporation

[Strategies for Optimal Network-Critical Physical Infrastructure](#) by APC (American Power Conversion Corporation)

[Managing the Information Lifecycle of Drug Discovery in a Regulated Environment](#) by EMC

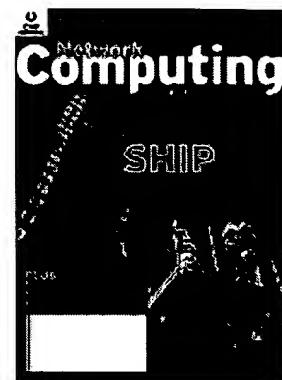
AlertCon

Current Internet Threat Level



[Get more information](#)

Subscribe to Network Computing



Mobilize Your Business

TechWeb is brought to you by [CMP Media LLC](#). Copyright © 2004

[Privacy Statement](#) | [Terms Of Service](#)